

## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a network nodes that are interconnected by communication links. Each node is capable of determining communication paths or routes from itself to as many other nodes as possible, either directly or relaying through other nodes, in order to complete the network. These paths are evaluated as new information concerning a route is generated, according to selected criteria, so that the best paths are identified, remembered and used when communication is performed. This invention is concerned with the determination of best paths through a network and the maintenance of these paths as communication conditions and node population changes.